COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF MONESSEN

CITY OF MONESSEN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JANUARY 25, 2024

6:30PM

Meeting called to order by Ron Mozer at 6:30 pm.

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN WAS HELD ON JANUARY 23RD, 2024 AT 6:00 PM IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, 2nd FLOOR MONESSEN, PA 15062 TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS.

Ron Mozer announces there was an executive session on January 23, 2024, at 6pm to discuss personnel matters.

1. ROLL CALL OF ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. Roll call by Michael Korposh – Anthony Orzechowski present – Lois Thomas present – John Nestor present – Karen Cosner present – Ron Mozer present.

2. OPENING PRAYER OFFERED BY PASTOR MIKE FISHER, ORCHARD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP. Opening pray offered by Pastor Mike Fisher.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Pledge of allegiance led by Ron Mozer.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS SESSION OF JANUARY 11TH, 2024. Motion to approve minutes of previous session by John Nestor – seconded by Anthony Orzechowski – vote 5 – 0.

5. OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY. Ernie Telegraphis – the library board that you are going to adopt today for the insurance – the library just yesterday paid their bill – the insurance company pressured them to pay it – are you guys

going to amend the motion to reimburse them (Ron Mozer – no there were responsible for the insurance right up until the time we have this meeting here – at this meeting we are going to take it over) so you are not going to reimburse them (Ron Mozer – no) there is one board is not on the agenda – why is the planning board not on there (Michael Korposh – we are not completed with those nominations – there are a few tonight and there will be a few more at the next meeting) how many people applied for that (Michael Korposh – just one) that's me – you are going to appoint others tonight that only have one (Ron Mozer – all the boards and authorities are not being handled tonight) (Michael Korposh – we just made a list of what is coming – planning is coming – I believe the next meeting) the next meeting – I will be looking out for that – thanks.

Ed Lefevre – I just wanted to asked on "F" Donald Byron for four year term – was this position open to the public at large (Ron Mozer – absolutely – it was advertised in the newspaper – I sat up here at the last meeting and said if there was a board or authority you wanted to be on, apply for it) how long ago was that (Ron Mozer – two weeks ago I was right here – it was advertised in the paper about a month ago) another question for "H" "I" "J" "K" – did you interview all these people for these positions (Ron Mozer – yes) you (Ron Mozer – somebody on the council did) I see – ok.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

OLD BUSINESS N/A

7. REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN. Joseph Dalfonso – the letters for the demo meeting for February 22nd have gone out – I worked the city administrator and the code enforcement for the advertisements as well as the property posting – there is a

MOU, not on this agenda but next agenda with the county's district attorney's office regarding video and audit requests – this is a state law that governs request for media of that type – it will be ready for council's adoption in a couple of weeks – finally the USDA easements are progressing – WEC is close to getting the license agreements with the railroads, one other property is close to being resolved as well – the only thing we have to do is follow up Cleveland Cliff after the city provided the video of that line that goes underneath their battery.

8. REPORT OF THE CITY TREASURER OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.

Gerald Saksun – report was given at the last council meeting.

9. REPORT OF THE CITY CONTROLLER OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.

Rosalie Nicksich – absent – report was given at the last council meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTAION BY THE CITY OF MONESSEN RECREATION BOARD ON EVENTS AND ALL FUTURE UPCOMING ACTIVITIES.

Ron Mozer – the recreation board did hold a very productive and positive meeting – I am quite pleased that they came forth and made lots of recommendations.

Julian Naphier – through working with the administration and Apex Flooring – the gym floor was redone – they not only did the gym floor but the restrooms and the whole entire front hallway – we just have to keep up on that – moving forward there should not be any issues – Julian read the recreation board of the City of Monessen letter – The Recreation Board of the City of Monessen is pleased to be working to improve and enhance our meeting and participation efforts within the City of Monessen over the last few weeks and months and are also working to develop our fundraising activities for both the civic center and our parks systems to enhance participation and the involvement of our youth community for the upcoming spring and summer seasons

within the city. We have had some difficulties with meeting quorums and participation of our membership to move our agenda forward over the last number of months. These issues have been addressed and fully discussed, and we are moving to have a fully functioning and participating board in the month of February 2024. Our board is also working with the City of Monessen to explore opportunities and the involvement of strategic partners within both the Non-Profit communities of our region and additional private sector entities in and around our city, to assist in the re-creation and redevelopment of a board with both proper oversight and direction, but one with the ability to develop comprehensive and coordinated fundraising and operational support to assist in the development and proper maintenance of all of our facilities within the City of Monessen. We are also requesting the support of all of our Monessen community members to develop and coordinate our additional support activities to work together with both the recreation board, the youth board, city council and the office of the mayor, to provide and develop a wide range of new activities that will benefit all of the community members, especially our children and disadvantaged members of our region. We have also attached the changing yet committed efforts to spending programs at the civic center and the park system, that continue to be moving forward, and we will be finalizing two or more agenda items through our CDBG funding efforts for the civic center, and due to some cost conscious and cost effective spending program prior to our March 2024 budget deadlines. We would also love it if you would be willing to support by making donations or by volunteering time at some of our programs. Please supply some background information to us this evening, and we will work with you to make this happen over the next few days. We look forward to working with you to expand our programs and support for our children and welcome the chance to meet with you in the

upcoming days and weeks ahead. Sincerely, The Recreation Board of the City of Monessen. (Ron Mozer – thank you – I appreciate what they are doing – a great improvement over the past)

Anthony Orzechowski – I have a few questions for Julian – I guess I am a little confused on that one paragraph that says we may be position to add more spending program prior to our March 2024 budget deadline – I not sure what budget (John Nestor – would that be the CDBG) (Ron Mozer – the 2023 CDGB money is what he is talking about) ok (Michael Korposh – councilman – because we were able to do the flooring at a reduced cost – we have freed up some money – we have not decided yet – on the page it said that – we have not come to a decision – we are still coordinating the last few items – some things can be added – this is a great thing – because of the floor situation we have more to offer – we always reference the September meeting – that is changing and can always change up to March and it will – if you received a copy) (Linda Lacey – I have a question on that) (Ron Mozer – we will talk about that later)

10. NEW BUSINESS – Anthony Orzechowski – I would like council to think about changing some ways that we do some things – I would like to change something we currently do as a cost savings and ecology – last month, no last meeting – it was pretty obvious when Marlene emailed me and said we need more paper – I just did it a couple of weeks ago – we wiped out a whole case – if you remember last meeting the meeting minutes was huge – she said over 1,000 pages - so what I am asking council to do is – one we have the minutes of the prior meeting like we approved tonight for every meeting prior to the meeting – which they be in a PDF – which they are because they get printed out – emailed to council the day before or the night before and to put up on the website and except for one pile over there – one shared copy for people to use at the time of the meeting – proposing

that we quit printing those out – I mean it's 1,000 of sheets plus ink and everything else that it costs (Linda Lacey – I have a problem with that – the agenda won't be over there) no only the meeting minutes from the prior meeting – like this huge stack that we have that is 90% of minutes from last meeting – I would ask council to consider we no longer print those except for one copy to share to the public – but is also put on the website in the time period before the four hours before it has to be shown and we can also review it so we don't have to print 10 or 15 copies (Linda Lacey – what if we want to see a copy) then you have a copy over there that you can look at Linda (Ernie Telegraphis – the web page got nothing – they don't even have Karen's name on it – it says Don Gregor) that was fixed today (Ernie Telegraphis - I looked at it today at 2pm and it was not fixed) (Michael Korposh – we fixed it today and fixed the stationery) once we do it, it should not have to be done again – saving paper – looking a saving ink because that cost a fortune – all it is, is paper after the meeting – I would like to propose that – I'm not asking for a motion or anything – I think that is something we should do as a group and save some cost – that could be considerable over the course of the year (Ron Mozer – the meeting minutes are on the web as we speak) that gives everybody time that runs around and a huge discussion and this much paper – someone has to dictate it and someone still has to type it – that does not change – sitting at the copier for 25 minutes waiting for copies (Ernie Telegraphis – are you going to come in and dictate it) no Ernie (John Nestor – it is time consuming) I'm trying to save you money as a taxpayer – it's a thought – we said we were going to leave a copy out (anonymous – not 1 but 10 copies – it's not saving that much money) this is something we are going to talk about.

Mayor Ron Mozer, Director of Public Affairs

a. Mayor Mozer's Update of Issues within the City of Monessen from January 11th, 2024, to January 25th, 2024. Ron Mozer – you may have seen in the newspaper about the county demoing the properties throughout the county – to date they have done 55 properties in the City of Monessen – 17 more are out for bidding – 17 have been contracted – total 96 properties in process – that is fantastic – we have been meeting with LISC – one of the two organizations that HUD gave to Monessen to help us through development – PMM helps us with our financials – LISC has been working with Community Farms, Community Action, Nehemiah, Monessen business leaders and a group of consultants we are working with – they have been very active over the past couple of weeks – things are starting to move forward and hopefully this year we will start to see some of the benefits from that – today Community Action performed what they call a PIT (Point in Time) – they are trying to get a count of the homeless in Monessen – it was centered around the Orchard Church – but they went around the town looking for homeless in the city of Monessen – they are offering them food and things – they are trying to get a count of these people – I don't know where that is going to go or not – I also talked with Cypher & Cypher the auditors – they will be here on February 6th through February 8th – they will be here for three days – to start going through the records to see what we are going to do – they will come back after tax season with their audit (Ernie Telegraphis – what is this going to cost the city) I don't remember the exact amount but $30,000 (Ernie Telegraphis – why don't you look at another auditor) we have looked at other auditors – that is the going rate – in fact that was a low bid – on today's agenda we are going to forgive some property for Joe Bradsma – he is a true success story for what can be done with

blighted property in Monessen – my hat is off to the man – he has taken some very blighted property and rehabilitated it and it is some fantastic property – he has really done an excellent job – just for people's information there are two pieces of property that the county has put on their website that they are offering for sale – one is 361 Schoonmaker and the other is 131 Motheral – those are two properties you may want to look at if you interested in those kinds of things – some news from the Mon Valley EMS – there has been some organizational changes over there – Chris Hepple is the one who is running the show over there – he will be meeting with me tomorrow to help us understand more of what that really means as far as what they are going to be able to do for us – we worked with the library to transfer the coverage of the building to the city – that is also on the agenda today – before we could do that, they had to clear off any back insurance that they had in their name – we could not go back and do that, they had to do it themselves – bear in mind because they don't have to pay for insurance for the building, they are going to get huge rebates on their policy – so they will get much of their money back – probably as much as 30 or 40 percent – from the insurance company not us – the generator at the fire station #1 has been fixed – has a new battery – setup to test daily – it's working fine – the lights at fire station #1 have been fixed – both in the ceiling and on the wall, I believe – all 88 of them – everything has been fixed at the fire station to the best of my knowledge – the parks department is currently working with our CFO to find a suitable truck – the CFO suggested some ARP money could be used for a suitable truck for the parks department and they are working together to come up with one that meets all the requirements.

b. Motion to approve Tax Forgiveness on properties for Joseph Bradsma at 530, 535, and 539 9th Street Monessen, PA 15062, Lot and Block Numbers, 20-02-06-0-220, 815 and 204. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

c. Motion to accept a property at 1049 Knox Avenue, Monessen, PA 15062, Tax Parcel ID Number 20-02-06-0-816 as a donation to the City of Monessen. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

d. Motion to transfer the Building Structure Insurance and add a general Liability Insurance coverage at the City of Monessen Public Library located at 326 Donner Avenue, Monessen, PA 15062 to the City of Monessen policy. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

e. Motion to close certain stairways and steps in the City of Monessen and approval of processes by the City of Monessen Street Crews to accomplish these safety and protection measures. This would include step and stairway structures at Walnut Street, Clarendon to 10th Street, 12th Street steps, 3rd street to 4th Street to be closed for the winter. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor - (Ron Mozer – steps that are left open have to be maintained the same as the roads – some of these steps are degraded with hand rails and so forth – from a safety perspective these steps were closed – when they get opened up in the spring, we need to make sure we prepare the hand rails and make them safe before we open them up again) vote 5 – 0.

f. Motion to appoint Donald Byron to a term on the Monessen Redevelopment Authority for a term of 4 years commencing on

January 25, 2024. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

g. Motion to appoint David Feehan to an Open Position on the Mon Valley Refuse Authority for a 5-year term commencing on January 25th, 2024. Applicants are David Feehan and Ted Harhai. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

h. Motion to appoint Catherine Tucker to an Open Position on the Mon Valley Sewage Authority for a 4-year term commencing on January 25th, 2024. Applicants are Catherine Tucker, Tom Salak, and John Manderino. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 0 -5. **Motion to appoint Tom Salak to an Open Position on the Mon Valley Sewage Authority for a 4-year term commencing on January 25th, 2024.** Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 – 1 – Lois Thomas voted no.

i. Motion to appoint John McGee to an Open Position on the Blighted Property Review Board for a 4-year term commencing January 25, 2024. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

j. Motion to appoint TeQuerra Shabazz to an Open Position on the Recreation Board of the City of Monessen for a 5-year term to commence on January 25, 2024. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

k. Motion to review and approve upcoming events at the Civic Center within the City of Monessen over the next 6-month period. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor (Michael Korposh – I would like to add one more event that just came up – it is a video at civic center on Saturday from 3pm to

8pm – a group that has a television program on horror related activities – they will need 4 to 5 hours to do the video – it is in the off portion of the gym so I don't think they will be anywhere they could hurt anything we just fixed) (Lois Thomas – making or showing a video) (Michael Korposh – making a video) (Ron Mozer – perfect) (Michael Korposh – they have insurance and they are paying for the rent) (Ron Mozer – it falls under our normal rental fees) (ErnieTelegraphis – any council members going to be there) (John Nestor – when is it) (Michael Korposh – this Saturday from 3pm to 8pm) vote 5 – 0.

l. Motion to exonerate the Municipal taxes on city owned property at 560 Donner, property id: 20-02-03-0-038. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

m. Motion to advertise for competitive bids for ADA compliant handicapped ramp at the Monessen Civic Center. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

Councilman Anthony Orzechowski, Director of Accounts and Finance

a. Motion to pay the following invoices from the General Fund in the amount of $65,939.17. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as Attachment "A". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

b. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Recreational Account in the amount of $227.95. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as Attachment "B." Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

c. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Parks Fund in the amount of $220.00. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "C". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

d. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Line Usage account in the amount of $24,376.31. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "D". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

e. Motion to pay the following Liquid Fuel invoices from the Liquid Fuels account in the amount of $6,192.93. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "E". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

f. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Refuse Account in the amount of $49,591.73. All Invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "F". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

g. Motion to approve the transfer of $74,711.92 from the General Fund to the Payroll Account to cover the payroll expenses. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

h. Motion to move $3,000.00 from the General Account to the Health Care Account. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

i. Motion to pay Retired Health Care Benefits for the month of January 2024 in the amount of $11,045.15. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

Account balances – American Rescue $209,347.85 – park $46,231.87 – grant $58,563.60 – recreation $5,027.34 – healthcare $3,346.82 – debt service $874,280.20 – line usage $786,663.78 – refuse $218,570.45 – payroll $9,658.31 – liquid fuels $2,184.29 – fire account $21,230.48 – general $97,380.91 – TAN $500,000.00.

Councilman Lois Thomas Director of Streets and Public Improvements

Streets and Public Improvement Report for month ending December 31st, 2023. Lois Thomas – I along with the crew would like to thank Steven Beck for his time spent working for the city and wish him a joyful retirement. Streets department report for December 2023 – got garbage downtown twice a week – cold patched several streets – answered 52 PA One Calls – took a handicap sign down – sweeper was out weather permitting – picked up litter throughout the city – we came out to salt roads once – helped the parks department as needed.

Councilman John Nestor, Director of Public Safety

Police and Public Safety Report for month ending December 31st, 2023. John Nestor – police department receipts for the year 2023 – parking fines & forfeits $200.00 – parking permits $80.00 – miscellaneous collections – copies of police accident reports $1,965.00 – restitution $207.86 – meter bags $66.00 – total miscellaneous $2,518.86 – court receipts from District Justice

Office – vehicle code fines collected $10,407.74 – crime code fines collected $6,004.83 – city ordinance collected $532.11 – code enforcement collected $1,309.44 – total receipts from District Justice Office $18,254.12 – total receipts collected for year 2023 - $20,772.98 – total citations for the month 1,079 – year-to-date 1,079.

Monessen Municipal Fire Chief Report – December 2023 – vehicle accident 4 – structure fires 1 – washing machine fire 1 – natural gas leak 1 – automatic fire alarms 3 – landing zone 1 – smoke in structure 1 – public service 1 – calls outside the city – structure fire Charleroi 2 – vehicle accident North Belle Vernon 1 – total calls 16 – total firefighters 133 – firefighters per call 8.30 – total manhours 150.

Code activity report for December 2023 – habitation permit 11 – correction letters 13 – animal complaints 5 dogs – miscellaneous complaints 26 – health inspection 11 – office meeting with residents 4 – citations issued 4 – hearings 3 – building permits 2 – zoning permits 1 – miscellaneous complaints consists of grass, noise, abandoned vehicles and homes.

EMS report for the month of December 2023 – 146 emergency calls – 8 fire standbys – total incidents 154.

Councilperson Karen Cosner, Director of Parks, and Public Property

Parks and Public Property Report for the month ending December 31st, 2023. Karen Cosner – as I am reading this report – due to the excellent job of our crew – I did not do this personally – picked up leaves and branches in the parks – picked up litter –

repaired timer for Christmas lights – fixed toilets in the garage restroom – cleaned the civic center when possible – helped the streets department as needed – longtime park department employee retired – Mr. Steven Beck – too bad he was not here longer because he knew everything about the parks – at the library one of our patrons come up – right after Christmas – she was looking depressed – I said what's wrong – this is something I would like you to bring up to council when you are on it – this Christmas season seemed like it was so commercial – I would like to see more of the meaning of Christmas come back into our community – is there any way we can put up a nativity scene or a menorah or whatever any other religious organization has at the end of town where Eastgate has the statue – it seems like Christmas just happened but it will be a snap and the season will be upon us – I just wanted to bring it up to see if council thought it would be a good idea or anybody in the audience thought it was a good idea – maybe we can work together and have a really nice display for when people come into our town.

11. OPEN THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM RELATING TO THE BUSINESS, ORDINANCES, STATUTES, RESOLUTIONS OR DAILY WORK PRODUCT AND ATTENTION OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN. Ernie Telegraphis – could someone tell me – I'm trying to connect the dots here – the code enforcers that Pino brought up last time – are they on salary or wages – simple questions (Ron Mozer – hourly wages) ok – we were under the impression it was salary because you said there was one pot and they divide it – at one time people could not earn salaries – so how is it divided, by the hours (Ron Mozer – yes) I could not find Apex the mysterious company that was supposed to fix the floor

for the civic center – who is Apex – where are they located at – who is the contact person that you talked to (Ron Mozer – Apex Flooring is the name of the company) where are they located (Michael Korposh – Perryopolis I believe) did they ever do business in Monessen (Michael Korposh – not sure Ernie but they supplied the scope of work and their insurance to us to do the project) why would a company like that pick up a big tab – what are they going to get out of it – did you promise them something (Lois Thomas – it may be a tax write-off) (Julian Naphier – he heard about the community – knew there was no way we could get the work done – the basketball association took it upon themselves to reach out to them and to work with the city – you said they supposedly got the work done – they got the floor done and did above and beyond what they were to do) no I said supposedly be the Apex Company – not they did it (Julian Naphier – there is no supposedly – they did it) ok – I could not find them on the internet – I am not denying that – I want to know who this mysterious company is – they are out of towners – I could see if they are from Monessen – but why would an out of town person be interested in helping Monessen (Julian Naphier – they have kids that are involved with what we do at the civic center) so kids from Perryopolis come here (Julian Naphier – I get kids from Pittsburgh) (Lois Thomas – Canonsburg, Washington) I did not know that – I thought it was just the valley here (Julian Naphier – they cleaned it - they surfaced it – it looks great) Ron you are patting yourself on the back about knocking down more buildings – who we got coming in to fill up the space – do we have anybody or do we just knock it down and just have land in Monessen (Ron Mozer – so far we got Community Action going to be building homes on Motheral) these people are not income producing

revenues – we need private industry with employees (Ron Mozer – so help me find them) are you guys looking (Ron Mozer – absolutely) who's door are you knocking on (Ron Mozer – you did not pay attention to my thing – we have a corporation called LISC) what do they do (Ron Mozer – they help coordinate activity) coordination is not the private industry that will create jobs (Ron Mozer – they help us find them) how many people and organizations that you brought here to meeting and you haven't done anything – they give you advice – and in some cases you pay them money (Ron Mozer – and you help us so much Ernie) mumbles (Ron Mozer – you are welcome to help) I am if you put me on a board – I'm not going to do it out of my own back yard (Ron Mozer – come help) ok - just want to know how many businesses do we have that pay taxes – how many organizations that don't pay taxes – who can answer that, the treasurer, the CFO (Ron Mozer – I don't know if we have those numbers but I can get them) any corporations or organizations that are paying taxes and how many aren't – I want to see the imbalance (Ron Mozer – ok) (Anthony Orzechowski – I would direct that to the Chamber of Commerce) whose Chamber of Commerce (Anthony Orzechowski – the Monessen Chamber of Commerce) you guys keep books (Anthony Orzechowski – that is what the Chamber of Commerce is supposed to do) I'm just asking you – like Jerry said last meeting that all he does is record transactions – how many companies pay, not people, not residents – groups or companies that are paying taxes and how many organizations we have that don't pay taxes – I want to see the unbalance – the imbalance – what we got here – if that area is not right we cannot afford another group to come into Monessen and take properties and then they don't pay taxes – you brought this up mayor at the

redevelopment authority that you were considering giving away the Mellon Bank building to a Nehemiah group who ain't even incorporated – that's a no-no – you cannot keep these secret thoughts to yourself and to your friends and keep it from the public (Ron Mozer – like I said, come help) how am I going to help wherever you guys (Ron Mozer – come up to my office – I am here 5 days a week from 7 in the morning until about 6 in the evening – I'll sit down with you – we will put together plans) I'm still waiting for the planning commission – I thought you were going to bring it up today – I was the only one that applied several weeks ago and I don't know why we are not on there today (Ron Mozer – we did not have the time to do them all) hopefully the next meeting then you will see me more often and I may need a room next to Karen there.

Julian Naphier – I want to say one last thing – all of you know that all I do at the civic center is all public events – some are for fundraising events to raise money for the kids and for the civic center – other events are free – any kid that hears about the open gym at the civic center is welcome to come to my open gym – I do not turn anybody away - anytime I am there – anyone from the public can come in and see the civic center – if the door is open – I am usually there – anyone can come in – all the events I do are posted on the city website – I print out fliers and take them to the businesses in town and they always hang up my fliers – I have it on the civic center page – the recreation board – the closest thing we have coming up is a vendor fair that was approved last year – February 10th from 12 to 6pm – that will be at the civic center – anyone is welcome to come to these events – I never turn anyone away anyone – like I said earlier we need help, we will appreciate the help – all these events are always advertised – people do see

them and no one shows up – I do them – the council approves them – no one shows up – we are doing our part – if there are questions or things that come up, feel free to come down and see the civic center floor, come down and see what is going on - we got all this equipment last year and no one has been down to look at it.

Ted Harhai – thanks for printing the attachments but we are not going to do that anymore – I have two questions on last meeting attachments and was able to research them on my own – which I thought was good – that is a big step in transparency in this local government body – do we have the attachments for today's meeting (Michael Korposh – we have them right here – I can make you a copy) I appreciate it (Michael Korposh – we have to redact some of the account information) I just want to see what goes – when you read off a bunch of numbers, you can tell $500 here $250,000 went to this – I was glad to see you partnered with Westmoreland Community Action – I served on the board for 15 years – Senator Ward has this Dottie Staffen on her staff – I am pleased to see we are going to do 5 single family homes on Motheral verses the gentleman that wrote the article about me – he wants to put two apartment building holding 24 families on the Linden School property – is he still a viable source with redevelopment authority – I thought he was off the chart – from two redevelopment authority meeting ago was he not done – does he have to submit something to the city also (Ron Mozer – it is RDA property – we will be aware of it) (Joseph Dalfonso – planning and zoning) are we still considering this guy (Ron Mozer – I don't know) I hope not – the credibility is not there – if it was like the Eisenburg building with Mon Valley Initiative - they took a $2.8 million – Mayor Mavrakis tried to stop it – it's a beautiful

building – they saved a beautiful building – it's modern – income level – I believe it is all occupied – 13 apartments – beautiful building – if we did something like that – that is the direction I think we should be going – AlumiSource, you said there was an issue or a problem – you never found out – the public was never told what the issue was – was it resolved and what was the whole deal – we know he sold the business inside the building and then he purchased Morgan Avenue from the Redevelopment Authority which now is not happening which is my understanding – I talked with Pino and it is not happening – remember our conversation about 2 or 3 weeks ago when you went – what was the deal – what happened – what did we have to do with him – there was an article in the paper that said there was one small issue in the paper – you have no reporter here (Ron Mozer – so as I understand it – I may have some misunderstanding myself – we are talking about a R-Cap – he had a R-Cap where he put up half the money and they put up the other half of the money – R-Caps require that you have local endorsement of the activity – R-Cap are supposed to benefit the local area and that is what that was all about) I understand R-Caps – nobody knew – to me they did not want to speak – I'll bring it up at the meeting because I did not have a chance to talk at the last meeting – Ernie was a little long winded and I had to leave (Ron Mozer – that explains that – so thank you) (Michael Korposh – a little on the R-Cap – the first years they summitted it, they were not awarded – City of Monessen was on there as the partner that year – the second year they submitted with the Redevelopment Authority of Westmoreland and Monessen was out completely) what did the R-cap encompass (Ron Mozer – it was for concrete) for the AlumiSource building and all of that (Michael Korposh – after the

first year Monessen was out of it) that makes a huge difference – that makes a lot more sense (Linda Lacey - when we were discussing that Tony said he got a bill) (Ron Mozer – no that was a separate issue) (Linda Lacey – it was still with AlumiSource) (Michael Korposh – it was put together by a past administration – it was an ongoing thing until he paid it) who was that (Michael Korposh – I believe it was MaryJo Smith – that has since been paid off) (Ernie Telegraphis – how is Mavrakis going to end up with $35,000) (Ron Mozer - AlumiSource paid for property – I'm not sure what the cost was but around $30,000) (Ernie Telegraphis – they got $35,000) (Ron Mozer – that has nothing to do with what we are talking about here) what happens to that money – the Redevelopment just hangs on to it (Ron Mozer – yes in that particular case) on Apex I was going to ask the same question – why would someone be so benevolent – you explained that – I appreciate that – I have heard nothing but good things about the job you do – one other thing was the road at 10th Street – this was at the last meeting – Highland Manor – was that ever done (Linda Lacey – they took that money that was supposed to go to 10th Street and put it for 3rd Street) (Ron Mozer – and the following year's money we put for 10th Street) somebody brought up that the housing authority was responsible to pave from here to here – and did that happen (Ron Mozer – so far the housing authority looks like they are vacating up there) the other thing I was going to say (Linda Lacey – excuse me – one minute – I drive up there – from Knox to Valley Manor, Valley Drive, Valleyview Drive that is the section that does not go into the manor) (Ron Mozer – you are right – 2023 public hearing we had – we set aside some money to fix that) (Linda Lacey – yeah but you took money from that street) (Ron Mozer – in 2021 we took money for 3rd Street –

we have not done that project yet either – in 2022 money we moved to 10th Street – there is money there to do it as long as we keep it on target) (Linda Lacey – I'm not going to forget it and I am going to hold you to it) (Ron Mozer – good – come to our CDBG meetings – that is all it takes) the fact, a lot or money was spent on 9th Street – the Veteran's situation – I would not leave the street like that – I know the co-owner of the Mon Valley Independent Joseph Dalfonso – could answer that question before I can – quicker than anyone else – I did not know if that was still on the books – whatever to pave the road and if Highland Manor was helping with the project (Ron Mozer – we are working hard to fix roads in Monessen) that area – all the money that was spent to beautify that park you would think that they would do the road also.

Linda Lacey – I have a couple questions about the civic center and the CDBG money – all this equipment that was purchased for $13,000 – that should not come out of the $44,775 because that stuff was done back in the summer – the popcorn machine the cotton candy machine – that was all there (Michael Korposh – it all came out of the pool – the public service youth pool) but the $44,775 was in the September agenda and this stuff was already in (Michael Korposh – this is all accumulative – it is an accumulative amount coming out – so you take the $13,000 of the $44,000 – the balance remaining – now with the great work Julian and the others have done on the floor – we can do – we already ordered the refrigerator, freezer, gas stove, top fryer and hand sink for the kitchen) the last meeting we had not got any bids on that (Michael Korposh – here is what happened with that – CDBG has required us on the handicap ramp, I believe that is the only one – we have to do three competitive bids – we can gets bids in

for the carpeting, exhaust fans and other things we are looking at now that we have more money – but we have to do it by March and we have to advertise it real soon to meet all these guidelines – it can go to other park related issue – we have to spent it though) that is another question I have – if we can use CDBG money for the civic center can we do it for city park (Ron Mozer – we spent $90,000 at 9th Street park last year) I'm talking about city park – if you are going to ask $300 a day to rent the amphitheater, there should be lights, there should be adequate electrical outlets everywhere and there should be an adjacent little place where people that want to use it can change – going to do something or store their equipment – but $300 (Ron Mozer – I can't speak for others, $300 – council did some time ago – but the amphitheater is a very much unused asset to the city) because it costs $300 per day (Ron Mozer – as an example there is a classical theater that they will probably get it for zero and anybody else that has a non-profit thing can get it for a reduced cost if not zero) suppose a non-profit does not want to rent it (Ron Mozer – then I can't help you) I think the price should be reduced (Ron Mozer – have them come to city council and we can see if we can get it reduced – we have) you put the electrical outlets on the walk track at city park (Ron Mozer – there are some there – some work and some don't) who put them in there (Ron Mozer – they have been there since the walking track was put in) no-no-no (Michael Korposh – we did that one in the summer) (Ron Mozer – yeah those boxes in the center are for vendors and stuff) I understand because the last time people got shocked up there -my problem is if you had somebody install it and it's not working properly (Ron Mozer – it is working fine) you just said half are working and half don't (Ron Mozer – I'm talking about on the bottom of the light poles) no I'm

not talking about them – I'm talking about (Ron Mozer – those two big boxes for power distribution are working fine) ok (Michael Korposh – Will Harper Electric did the work – I can get you the number) (Ted Harhai – I thought the city workers did it) (Michael Korposh – they started it and it was not acceptable so he came in and finished it) (Ron Mozer – they are up to code – they are done properly) mumbling (Ron Mozer – those were power extension cords that were run there for years – they were not safe – somebody got shocked – that is when we decided we had to put in something that is more substantial and meets code) (Ted Harhai – they are in the middle of the track) (Ron Mozer – that is where they wanted them in the center for activities they do there) (Ted Harhai – I thought that is where you wanted them) (Ron Mozer – no that is where there were before and that is where we put them) (Ted Harhai – how much did that cost) (Michael Korposh – I don't have that in front of me – I can get that for you – not absorbent – I'll check) first of all I want to thank Karen for stepping up and observing what we need in Monessen – thank you Karen – we talked about the sign coming in on Tyrol and Monongahela Street – we wanted to put an electronic sign in there – she already brought it up and is working on that – I'm hoping they are working on that – thank you for that (Karen Cosner – I just brought it up to the person – he did make contact – they are working on it) that is the first step – we have been asking for a change on that sign for the past 5 or 6 years – the next thing I guess is for you Nestor – if you are closing down the steps in the winter – I guess you are going to open them back up in the spring if you fix them – but I not sure that is going to happen – the steps I am talking about are on 3rd Street (Ron Mozer – by the viaduct) just before you go up under – after it passed the viaduct actually

(Ron Mozer – to the Nippa building on 4th Street) those steps – my thing is remove that stop sign and put one of those electronic signs that record your speed – if the people in Valley Manor say they use that as a high speed highway – because if you are going to close the steps – I assume the stop sign was there for the people that want to go across and go up the steps – but since you are closing them, there is no need for a stop sign – the stop sign is actually past Valley Manor – so to me when you took it down the first time it should have stayed down – you put it back up – people are running it anyway because what is the point of stopping there – if you put one of those electronic speed sign at the beginning of 3rd Street when you come off of Schoonmaker – I think that would serve the people in Valley Manor better than that stop sign (Karen Cosner – that is my route every time I go home and I love that stop sign because it makes me slow down – when I left here today I bet there was a herd of deer – eight or ten of them and it forced me to slow down and everybody else for those little deer that could get smashed – I love the stop sign) I understand that but that stop sign was put there because of Valley Manor – they said people were zooming past their apartment building – the stop sign is actually after that (Karen Cosner – yes it is but it makes you slow down for the deer – which I love those deer) I break for squirrels and chipmunks and anything in the road- that's not the point – if the steps are not there we don't need the stop sign – you took money from 10th Street and gave it to 3rd Street.

Ed Lefevre – the last snow, I really want to thank the crew that did the streets – I know I live in one section and it was cleared – I'm not sure about the other sections – they did an excellent job (Ron Mozer – they did a superb job all across town) yes they are always

out there when the snow is starting – I give them all credit (Ron Mozer – me too) I have one question – I have been making my way through Title 11 about third class city code – I came across a newspaper article on December 29th of last year – at the end of the article are these words –"Council meetings will be continued to be held at 6:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursday of each month except for November and December" – I found that curious so as I was leafing through this I can across paragraph 11:11005 – meeting of council and participation by telecommunication device – council shall hold stated meeting at least once each month and at other times that may be fixed by ordinance – once each month – there is not parentheses that said except November and December (Ron Mozer – no-no-no let's be clear about that – there will be meeting in November and December, October – the dates will not be on the second and fourth Thursday because that falls on Thanksgiving and around Christmas – the bottom lines is we scheduled them for different day on those two months – that is what we did – we did not delete them – we just rescheduled them) ok that was fine – that confused me because it said except November and December – it did not clarify that – I thought you were just eliminating them (Ron Mozer – no) back in December you advertised for a city engineer – has one been hired (Ron Mozer – no – we are still looking) what would be the qualifications for a city engineer (Ron Mozer – did you see what was in the newspaper) pardon me (Ron Mozer – did you read what was in the newspaper) I haven't seen it (Ron Mozer – it was very detailed) the engineer needs a degree (Ron Mozer – it was very detailed) when was that – I'll look at the issue (Michael Korposh – I think January 11th – we had two advertisements) (Ron Mozer – it was almost a full page) (Michael

Korposh – I can get you the dates) with Mr. Vitale – what is the difference here (Ron Mozer – this does not preclude Vitale – we have not appointed a city engineer in several years, several administrations – this is the process of doing that – if you look at what Mr. Vitale is doing, he is doing one of the biggest and most important projects we have in the city) I understand that (Ron Mozer – millions in a sewer project – he has got all hands on deck running that project – he is saving us money – getting more done than what we thought we were getting – full steam on that – he just doesn't have the men to do the simple little projects we have here and there – that is what we are doing – he will remain to be the engineer of record for the CDBG projects and the sewer project – what we are looking for is an engineer to help us with other little projects that come along) such as (Ron Mozer – demolitions of a house or some obscure street we are trying to do) ok (Michael Korposh – if you would like I can send them to you by email) sure – last meeting I agree with the CFO – he had questions about the Citizen's Bank – I think it would be an albatross to the city – I agreed with Tony – the renovation of the inside would be somewhat difficult – that is just my opinion – can I have an opinion on that – it is such an odd building – put another bank in there (Ron Mozer – if just might happen – you never know) Mr. Korposh this was on my email – I subscribe to a newsletter out of Harrisburg – this about Pennsylvania is open for business – they mention the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority, the Pennsylvania Strategic Investment & Sights – they add here Municipality financial recovery program, community development block grants, financing authority – they have, they list ten what they call depressed status towns who are going to get money from the Municipalities Financial Recovery Program –

one is Alliquippa, Braddock, the City of Duquesne – when I was discussing the millage at one point in the council meeting – off to the side of that report, it mentioned Monessen was a depressed city so I'm looking at these – is it as depressed as Braddock, Duquesne – I'm I misinformed (Michael Korposh – 'Ed handed Mike the report'- we are talking to all these folks) you want suggestions on how to do things – well.

Pino Cianflone – I got a question – I would like to follow up on what he said about the engineer – you said the reason you are looking for an engineer is because they don't have the time (Ron Mozer – I don't want to distract them from their other duties) I think you are trying to set him up to get rid of him – if you get additional engineers, you could sell him out – I think if he has been an engineer here for the past 50 years – I think his family has – why are you so hard on him – I want you to think about that because if you talk to him I think he has the ability, skill and knowledge (Ron Mozer – are you saying we should not keep our eyes open to what else is available – that is all this is – he can reapply and he may be the one who gets it) you know you are up to no good – with Teddy Harhai – you did that with Teddy Harhai – you can apply for the job but it is all set up and done – this deal is done – I'm telling you – I wanted to bring that up so you guys know that it is incorrect what you are doing and it is very noticeable and you don't run Monessen – other people run Monessen – (Ron Mozer – then why blame me for anything then) I'm just telling you, it's very noticeable – the other questions I want to bring – there is one, two, three, four – four council people – right – I would like to see once and for all the Monessen fire department tax exempt – you guys - are you for it or against it, are you for or against it, are you for it or against it, are you for or

against it – the guys need their money to run their place and bring people in – and if you give everybody else tax exempt from out of town that pays no taxes – I think you need to give it to the fire department so they can operate (Ron Mozer – are you talking about giving the fire department tax forgiveness or the people who work their tax forgiveness) tax free (Ron Mozer – who) the whole thing (Ron Mozer – first off they are in a city building – they do not pay taxes on city buildings) Hepple – are you guys tax exempt (Delmar Hepple – are you talking about giving fire fighters tax exemption – our fire department does not pay taxes on the buildings the city owns) Allegheny county, they come in they get $500 tax exempt per year – I'm asking are you guys tax exempt period (Delmar Hepple – no – some municipalities are giving tax breaks for fire fighters) (Joseph Dalfonso – can I jump in here – there are some) you don't need to talk (Joseph Dalfonso – do you want me to explain the tax – I'm trying to help you out) you are only getting involved from the legal end of it (Joseph Dalfonso – this is the legal end – it is a state law that you are referring to) I'm not asking you that question (Joseph Dalfonso – you are asking) I'm asking city council are you for or against tax exempt for the firemen – just raise your hand (no response) (Anthony Orzechowski – you are not defining what you want – you are putting two things together and I think what Ron is asking are you talking of other places where the fire fighters get $500 or $1,000 or $2,000 tax break or are you talking about the fire department themselves) correct – which means they will be also bring some people in to help in the fire department – that's exactly – you said it – you give them a tax break – whether it is $500 or $1,000 – and those who come in, in order to get them in, you cut them a break – now are you for or against – you don't have to vote on it – I just

want to see hands (Anthony Orzechowski – can Hepple better explain) (Delmar Hepple – they are giving fire fighters a break – if you look at the numbers that were read tonight – there is a concerning number of fire fighters at a fire – we only had 8.30 fire fighters at the fires – in the last 6 months I see the number falling – others may have to handle their own – they don't have to come here – I cannot depend on them – I understand in order to bring that number up, you have to get people involved) absolutely – I'm for it (Ron Mozer- first off this is the first time this has been presented to me – why would you judge me) you don't have to vote on it – are you for it (Karen Cosner – I think this is something we should look into – it sounds good but we have to look into it) Nestor are you for it (John Nestor – I am not going to just raise my hand and say yes or no – I'm going to look into details before I jump on it – I want to hear from the chief before I do anything) that's ok (Joseph Dalfonso – chief is it act 174) (Delmar Hepple – I believe it is) are you in favor (Anthony Orzechowski – anything that benefits the city) (Lois Thomas – I am up for discussion) so ok you got it – they are going to look into it – do anything to make the city better – just keep that in mind – I have one more question to go – on Apex – you got mentioned – the one thing that I don't get – they are from Perryopolis – they do that for a living – the floor (Ron Mozer – apparently) so it's not, I ask that question last time, it's not Apex the drilling company (Michael Korposh – no) so it's actually a flooring company (Michael Korposh – yes) they are advertising for themselves so that is great – I didn't know who is Apex because there are two different kinds – they are in the oil and gas business – one other thing as far as the city workers go – I still believe in my mind and I know this, there is not enough of them - there are only 4 of 5 of them – 1 of 2 drive a truck, the

others are behind – how many miles do we have in Monessen (Anonymous – 43 miles) there is no way in hell 4 people can work around and get that all done – they did do a good job by the way – I'm not saying – I'm just telling you they need a break – they need some additional help – Monessen looks like crap when it comes down to cutting all the grass – they only do what people can see, if you drive into Monessen away from the main drag you see all the places they can't cut the grass because they do not have the people – the blacktop to me – you got a legislator who is a total asshole – ok – give $190,000 to Rostraver to do a pickle ball court and in Monessen we cant even get a blacktop on a tennis court and that is the same dang guy who represents us – you tell me that is right – what do we have – we have nothing right – they have everything and they get everything – a pickle which I think is great for Rostraver – all we want is a tennis court – blacktop and a couple of pot holes fixed – he can't do that – and again this is the last thing I have to say – at the last redevelopment meeting I asked to put – to be taped – you said that was a good idea – that is simple you hold the meeting here – you got everything here – you do not stand up to him – you are scared of him (Ron Mozer – I am not scared of him) yes you backed away (Ron Mozer – I'm not even scared of you) you say that every time – who is in charge of the damn, you know the parking spaces downtown – who has the parking space – who owns the parking space (Anthony Orzechowski – what parking spaces) the parking garage (Anthony Orzechowski – the city – it is closed) who is in control of that (Anthony Orzechowski – the city) how about somebody tell the redevelopment group to mind their own damn business (Anthony Orzechowski – why – what is going on) because they talking about doing all kind of stuff but they

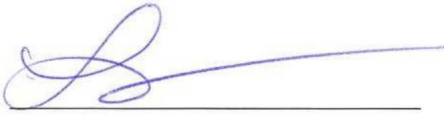
don’t have the money – they got people coming and going – nothing is happening (Ernie Telegraphis – you said you were going to give it to them) (Ron Mozer – I never said I was going to give it to them) you didn’t say a damn word down there – that’s the fact (Lois Thomas – you said they are coming and going) they say were are going to do this and going to do that – we are going to fix the upstairs – they don’t even own the damn thing – I said before and I’ll say it again you need to get an engineering company to come in and actually do a study of that (Ron Mozer – it was our engineering company that condemned the property and closed it down) if they condemned property then you do what you like best – destroy the city – that is what you like best – destroy the city – when I come to Monessen you know it’s sad – I moved back from Peters Township here to try to help you guys out – yeah I talk a lot of crap but what I’m talking is facts – when I leave Montraver there is nothing but potholes ok all over the creation – you hit them and I hit them – you got a god damn state legislator that give a pickle court $190,000 and we can’t get shit (Ernie Telegraphis – they don’t do their job) (Anthony Orzechowski – that is your job as a tax payer, it's not our job, it’s your job, it’s everybody job) (Linda Lacey – we elected you guys to take care of our city) you are right it is everybody’s job (Anthony Orzechowski – you are right) but you can’t choose and pick – you don’t like me because of the way I speak, perhaps but I will tell you the truth to your face – I don’t go behind your back – I’m not here to criticize Monessen public – I am here to criticize the people who are running it because you guys have a hand on it – I’ve been saying hire more policemen, hire more city workers and you keep saying no way – why – ask for money – you went to Harrisburg and told me how beautiful the city is – I lived there for almost 10 years – so

please don't tell me how Harrisburg looks like – but there is one thing you don't know – you can't do marketing – your garbage, trash (Anthony Orzechowski – Pino I have a question for you that I need you to follow up, a friend of my wife's got a phone call Monday morning that Ross – nobody picked up garbage on their whole street – they did come back late Wednesday evening to pick it up – that was two days – now I live on Hillcrest – they skipped the whole block of Hillcrest for recyclables last time – I'm asking you if you would be kind enough to look into what the situation is because we get phone calls – I get phone calls from people saying hey my garbage has not been picked up – can you tell me what to do – I'm just asking you) I don't have a problem doing that – that is my job (Anthony Orzechowski – I hope so – thank you) not a problem – I got one more question – for those that watch your – because I don't watch the crap on tv – and I don't read the fake news – for those that watch tv of this meeting – I am not bitching for Pino – I'm hoping that whoever is watching would run for mayor and council because you need people that live in this city to represent this city – you don't need no damn out of towner to come up and tell me what the hell the city needs (Anthony Orzechowski – you have to live in the city to run in the city – you can not live outside the city limits and run for council in a municipality or city – so what are you) I'm saying the people that live in the city of Monessen (Anthony Orzechowski – again you have to live withing the city limits – you have to be a citizen) there isn't one person on these walls – upstairs that wasn't from Monessen run for mayor (Anthony Orzechowski – wait a minute – can you say that one more time – is was so garbled) everyone of the people on the walls – upstairs – they are all from Monessen – they all live here – they all grew up here – went to school here –

they know the city – there is a difference in knowing the city – I'm not saying for you Tony – I'm saying for you to have people from Monessen who live in Monessen – they are from Monessen – they know the city – they can do their dang job (Anthony Orzechowski – there is a difference from Monessen) (Ron Mozer – we are getting off the subject – this is not part of the forum – this is not a time to do that) I'm trying to get rid of you (Ron Mozer – that is clear – you have been) (Ed Lefevre – is there something that regulates the fire department) (Joseph Dalfonso – what do you mean regulate) (Ed Lefevre – what they are compensated for and what the are entitled to) (Joseph Dalfonso – compensated by whom) (Ed Lefevre – this is what I am asking) (Joseph Dalfonso – there are some provisions in the third class city code – I believe the only stipulation is that they have to provide workman's compensation insurance to the volunteer fire department – I don't believe there are any state laws requiring funding for them – there is funding available through various state agencies – not sure exactly what you are asking) (Ron Mozer – this is something that needs to be addressed outside of this) (Ed Lefevre – it is based on a volunteer fire department) (Ron Mozer – give us a break Ernie) (Ernie Telegraphis – this is a plus – I just have one suggestion – people should not be bothering you, the council for garbage - this happens to me three or four times a year – they forgot to pick up garbage or recyclables – all you have to do is call 724-929-7694 County Hauling – when I call them they either come the same day or the next day – there is no need to call you people – they are the contractors).

12. ADJOURNMENT – Ron Mozer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 pm – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

Attest:



City Clerk Linda Matthews



Mayor Ron Mozer